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## **Triptych**

Office of Arts + Cultural Programming

PEAK Performances at Montclair State University

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Dr. Susan A. Cole, President  
Daniel Gurskis, Dean, College of the Arts  
Jedediah Wheeler, Executive Director, Arts & Cultural Programming

# Heidi Latsky Dance *Triptych*

## PROGRAM

Dance for Film on Location at Montclair State University, produced by the Office of Arts & Cultural Programming, presents:

### *Soliloquy* (World Premiere!)

Director/Choreographer **Heidi Latsky**  
Director of Photography **Zac Halberd**  
Film and Sound Editor **Marilys Ernst**  
Costume Designer **Liz Prince**  
Music and Soundscape **Chris Brierley**  
Performers **Jen Bricker, Meredith Fages, Jeffrey Freeze, Lawrence Goldhuber, Jerron Herman, Jillian Hollis, Heidi Latsky, Evan Ruggiero, Robert Simpson, Alexandria Wailes**

*Soliloquy is dedicated to the memory and artistry of Lisa Bufano (October 20, 1972–October 3, 2013).*  
*Dance for Film on Location at Montclair State University is funded by The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.*

### *Solo Countersolo* (2013)

Choreography **Heidi Latsky**, in collaboration with the dancers  
Original Music **Chris Brierley**  
Lighting Design **Robert Wierzel**  
Costumes **Carlos Arias**  
Performers **Brynt Beitman, Meredith Fages, Jillian Hollis, Heidi Latsky, Saki Masuda, Gregory Youdan Jr.**

*Thanks to Landes Dixon, Melani Hailey, Erica Moshman, Steve Schepis, and Kay Gaynor for their contributions to this work.*

### *Somewhere* (2015)

Choreography **Heidi Latsky**, in collaboration with the dancers  
Original Music **Xi.me.na Borges**  
Lighting Design **Robert Wierzel**  
Costumes **Heidi Latsky** and the company  
Performers **Brynt Beitman, Meredith Fages, Jerron Herman, Jillian Hollis, Heidi Latsky, Saki Masuda, John McGinty, Robert Simpson, Alexandria Wailes, Gregory Youdan Jr.**

Dramaturgy **Stewart M. Schulman**  
Assistant Lighting Design **Anshuman Bhatia**  
Stage Manager/Technical Director **Leslie Smith**

This program is supported in part by public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council and the Harkness Foundation for Dance.  
Developed in residence at the Alexander Kasser Theater at Montclair State University.

Duration: 70 minutes, no intermission.

In consideration of both audience and performers, please turn off all electronic devices. The taking of photographs or videos and the use of recording equipment are not permitted. No food or drink is permitted in the theater.

## Staff

### Office of Arts & Cultural Programming

Executive Director **Jedediah Wheeler**  
Executive Producer **Jill Dombrowski**  
Production/Facility Manager **J. Ryan Graves**  
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Production Run Crew **Kristine Biglin, Laura Chrismon, Harrison Goodbinder, Rocco Terranova**

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### The 2014/15 season is made possible in part by funds from:

The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation

The New Jersey State Council on the Arts/Department of State,  
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Discover Jersey Arts

National Dance Project (NDP) of the New England Foundation for the Arts

Alison and James T. Cirenza

Robert and Holly Gregory

The Honorable Mary Mochary



# Peak Performances

THE 2014-15 SEASON



# Heidi Latsky Dance *Triptych*



Still image from *Soliloquy*

April 16–19, 2015  
Alexander Kasser Theater



MONTCLAIR STATE  
UNIVERSITY







## About the Artists (cont'd.)

**Meredith Fages** has performed with Armitage Gone! Dance, Alexandra Beller, Monica Bill Barnes/Waterwell, Wally Cardona, Deborah Hay, Mana Kawamura, Heidi Latsky Dance, Motley Dance, Jimena Paz, Laura Peterson Choreography, Becky Radway, Sarah Skaggs, Steeledance, Palissimo/Pavel Zustiak, Mitzi Adams, Eidolon Ballet, Helen Heineman, Todd Rosenlieb Dance, and Virginia Ballet Theatre. She has been featured in Ashton, Balanchine, Christensen, and Tudor ballets. On film she has collaborated with directors Xan Burley and Alex Springer, Bat-Sheva Guez, Deborah Lohse, Richard Move, Donnell Oakley, and Mark O'Maley. She was born in Charleston, SC, and graduated from Columbia University with a pre-medical concentration in English. Fages is the proud mother of Graham Sterling Proskin, born July 2014.

**Jeffrey Freeze** has been a professional dancer for 30 years. His credits include the movie *Dirty Dancing* and the Broadway production of Matthew Bourne's *Swan Lake*. He has served as associate director of Heidi Latsky Dance for 12 years. Freeze received his BFA from North Carolina School of the Arts and is currently working on his post-baccalaureate pre-med course work at Hunter College. He routinely teaches dance and Pilates at Steps on Broadway and major universities. He has been a guest artist with Debbie Harry, Penny Arcade, Abdel Salaam, and RuPaul. He is grateful to have had the opportunity to mentor with an amazing artist, gentle soul, and good friend: Ms. Latsky.

**Lawrence Goldhuber** began working with the Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Dance Company in 1985 (continuing) and has created work with DV8, Meredith Monk, and Jan Fabre. He has presented seasons at Danspace, PS122, Abrons, and Dance Theater Workshop (DTW). Goldhuber received a 1995 Bessie Award for sustained achievement and served as the co-host for the 2002 Awards. He is the recipient of a 2002 Fellowship in Choreography from the New York Foundation for the Arts and has received funding from the Jerome, Harkness, and Joyce Theater Foundations and the American Music Center, among others. Commissions include DTW, Joyce Theater, PICA, Danspace, PS122, Massachusetts Museum of Contemporary Art, and Jacob's Pillow. Goldhuber & Latsky performed internationally, receiving commissions from the American Dance Festival, Whitney Museum, Cannes, and Celebrate Brooklyn!

**Jerron Herman**, a California native, has been dancing with Heidi Latsky Dance for two years and shows no signs of stopping. A recent college graduate, Herman came to New York to study playwriting. He has written and produced two short musicals and a one-man show and worked at several theater companies, with a stint at the New Victory Theater sparking his dance career. He never thought he would dance! Herman enjoys writing and watching old films and recent plays; he also likes to sing and is the first person on any dance floor. Herman wants to thank Heidi Latsky Dance and devotes this to his parents, Cynthia and Gerald Herman.

**Jillian Hollis** met Heidi Latsky at Point Park University, where she graduated with a BA in Dance. She received her early training from the Center of Ballet and Dance Arts in Syracuse. Since moving to New York, she has worked with Rocha Dance Theater, TAKE Dance, Carrie Ahern Dance, Joseph Mills, Heather Harrington, The Good to Go Girls, and Lady Rizo. She performs in the burlesque scene under her alter ego, Gigi Bonbon, is rehearsal director for Jenny Rocha & Her Painted Ladies, and has been described as “blithely irrepressible” in the *New York Times*. She has been a member of Heidi Latsky Dance since 2002.

**Saki Masuda** is originally from Nara, Japan. Her professional credits include Steps Repertory Ensemble, Ballet Hispanico Ensemble, Staten Island Ballet, Nai-ni Chen Dance Company, Xodus Dance Collective, Benjamin Briones Ballet, and the musical *Cats* as Victoria, among others. She has been dancing with Heidi Latsky Dance since 2012.

**John McGinty** was recently seen as Brian in the critically acclaimed web series *High Maintenance*. He played the role of Billy in *Tribes* at the Guthrie Theater in Minneapolis, Steppenwolf Theatre in Chicago, and Everyman Theatre in Baltimore. Regional credits include *Pippin* (Center Theatre Group/Deaf West); *Fêtes de la Nuit* (New Ohio Theatre); and *Handicapped People in Their Formal Attire* (Premiere Stages). National tour credits include *Robin Hood: Thief of Hearts* (Cleveland Signstage Theater Company). Film credits include *Closed Captions* and *Conned*. Television credits include *I Killed My BFF* and *FBI: Criminal Pursuit*. He is currently the executive director at Senses Askew Company in New York City. He is excited to be with Heidi Latsky Dance.

**Evan Ruggiero** began dancing at age 5 and by age 10 was accepted into the New Jersey Tap Ensemble (Deborah Mitchell, dir.). He performed at Lincoln Center, the Shomberg Museum of Harlem, and the New Jersey Performing Arts Center, among others. During his sophomore year at Montclair State, while pursuing a BFA in Musical Theatre, Ruggiero was diagnosed with osteosarcoma, a rare bone cancer, of the right leg. After nine surgeries in six months, his leg had to be amputated to stop the cancer, and he underwent chemotherapy for 16 months. Ruggiero held close to the dream of dancing, inspired by Clayton “Peg Leg” Bates, a legendary African American entertainer who taught himself to tap dance after losing a leg in a cotton gin accident at age 12. Within 18 months of the amputation, and only two days after receiving his “peg-leg,” Ruggiero was tapping again.

**Robert Simpson** studied modern dance with Maxine Sheets-Johnstone, Willa Kahn, and Irene Feigenheimer and ballet with Alfredo Corvino, Michael Vernon, and Pamela Pribisco. In New York City he has performed his own work as well as in works by Barbara Roan and Claudia Gitelman and, since 2010, with Heidi Latsky. As a result of a cerebral vascular accident in 1998, Simpson lost the use of his left side. In 2005 he was diagnosed with Parkinson's Disease.

**Alexandria Wailes** has appeared as an actor on Broadway in *Big River* and in numerous NY/regional theater productions, including *Mother Courage*, *A Kind of Alaska*, *Gruesome Playground Injuries*, *Fêtes de la Nuit*, *Pippin*, *The Wild Boys*, *Sleeping Beauty Wakes*, and *Big River*. Television credits include *Law & Order: Criminal Intent* and *Nurse Jackie*. Film credits include *The Hyperglot*, *Theatre of War*, *Always Chasing Love*, *Freedom Is Not Free*, *An Experience*, and *The Tuba Thieves*. She has appeared in the Web series *258 News*, *Weiner & Weiner*, and *High Maintenance*. Wailes was associate choreographer for Deaf West Theatre/Forest of Arden's revival of *Spring Awakening* in fall 2014 and again at the Wallis in Los Angeles in late spring 2015. She has been a member of Heidi Latsky Dance since January 2013.

## About the Company

**Heidi Latsky Dance** (HLD) is a New York City–based dance company dedicated to redefining beauty through performance, discourse, and educational activity. Heidi Latsky founded HLD in 2001, and her drive to use dance to explore the beauty in a diverse group of dancers resulted in The GIMP Project, a body of work that includes dancers with and without disabilities. The critically acclaimed show *GIMP* (2008) features original music, film, and aerialists and both acknowledges and explores disability without compromising its dance aesthetics. *GIMP* has been presented at venues including the Abrons Arts Center, Institute for Contemporary Art, Kennedy Center, Flynn Center for the Performing Arts, Dublin Dance Festival, Scripps College, DaDaFest (Liverpool), Chicago Humanities Festival, Alverno Presents, CREA Conference (Kathmandu), Crossing Borders Festival (Düsseldorf), and the August Wilson Center in Pittsburgh. *GIMP* is the subject of a short film by Richard Move, *GIMP—The Documentary*, which premiered at the Film Society of Lincoln Center; an AP multimedia piece; and features on CNN, NET, and NPR. A profile on *GIMP* was nominated for an Emmy Award in 2010. *IF* (2010) premiered at the Jewish Community Center (JCC) in Manhattan, was presented at La Mama ETC, and was restaged for Cleveland's Dancing Wheels Company. Highlights from the last few years include performances at Lincoln Center Out of Doors, TEDxWomen in DC, Reelabilities Film Festival, Stony Brook University, and the Kessler Foundation and lectures at Barnard, Brockport, Harvard, and Oakland Universities.

Over the past two seasons, HLD has been on the touring roster under the New York State Presenters Network and performed at University of Rochester, the Orpheum Theater in Tannersville, Fashion Institute of Technology, JCC Manhattan, Baruch Performing Arts Center, the Dance Center of Columbia College (Chicago), Chicago Humanities Festival, Emelin Theater, and New York Live Arts.

To celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), HLD is partnering with Commissioner Victor Calise and the NYC Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities to coordinate *ON DISPLAY*, a free public-event series of movement installations

**Gregory Youdan Jr.** joined Heidi Latsky Dance in 2010. Most recently, he has performed with David Parker and The Bang Group, Sokolow Theatre/Dance Ensemble, Flexicurve, and the New York Baroque Dance Company. Past credits include Lifedance/Gloria McLean, H.T. Chen & Dancers, Catherine Gallant/DANCE, and Kelley Donovan and Dancers, among others. He was a featured dancer in Thaddeus Strassberger's *Le roi malgré lui* and the Göttingen Händel Festspiele's production of *Teseo*. Additionally, he was an original touring cast member for Cirque Legacy's *City Life*. Youdan has appeared in the music videos of Black Taxi, Greg Lato, Ben Lerman, and Mandy Moore. He holds a BA in Dance from Hofstra University.

featuring a diverse cast of dancers. A multimedia version of *ON DISPLAY* will premiere at the David Rubenstein Atrium at Lincoln Center on October 1. In November, HLD will present *SOMEWHERE* and *ON DISPLAY* in a shared program with AXIS Dance Company at NYU's Skirball Center for the Performing Arts.

Upcoming commissions include University of Wisconsin-Madison, Ten Hairy Legs, and Cleveland's Dancing Wheels (as part of ADA's celebration). *TRIPTYCH* will tour to the American Dance Festival this summer.

[heidilatskydance.com](http://heidilatskydance.com)

## HLD Staff

Artistic Director **Heidi Latsky**  
Executive Director **Alison Holden**  
Associate Director **Jeffrey Freeze**  
Finance Director **Claude-Andrée Louissaint**  
Administrative Associate **Shannon Elizabeth O'Brien**  
Graphic Design **Point Five Design**  
Rehearsal Directors **Sharon Milanese,**  
**Steve Schepis**  
Interns **Louisa Mann, Olivia Porter**  
Artistic Advisor **Bella Malinka**

## Acknowledgments

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A special thank you to Ivan Sygoda for being my champion, to Joan Pierpoline for her guidance throughout the making of *TRIPTYCH*, and to Jeremy Alliger for introducing me to the world of disability and dance.

With deep gratitude to Montclair State for this incredible opportunity; to Stewart Schulman, for his honesty and for pushing me to “go the distance”; to Marilys Ernst, for her steadfast commitment and guidance; to my collaborators Liz Prince, Zac Halberd, Anna Kathleen Little, and Chris Brierley; to my daughter Charlotte Henry Jones, for her creative insights; and to my dancers, whose hearts and talents keep me going.